



The City of Raleigh

Stormwater Management Advisory Commission

February 1, 2018
3:00 pm

Conference Room 305
Raleigh Municipal Building

Commission Members Present: Matthew Starr, Jonathan Page, Ken Carper, Francine Durso, Kevin Yates, Chris Bostic, Evan Kane, and Mark Senior

Commission Members Absent: David Webb and Vanessa Fleischmann

Staff Members Present: Veronica High, Kelly Daniel, Suzette Mitchell, Carmela Teichman, Brad Cole, Lory Willard, Kristin Freeman, Wenju Zhang, Scott Bryant, Charles Webb, Kevin Boyer, Justin Harcum, Jason Palivoda, Lauren Witherspoon, Ashley Rodgers, Jonathan McNeill, Dale Hyatt, Veronica Barrett, Melanie Nguyen, and Ben Brown

Guests: Lubin Prevatt, Nancy Wehling, Jay Jayakrishnan, and Tony Grubbs

Meeting called to order: at 3:02 pm by Matthew Starr (*Chair*)

1. Welcome, Introductions, Excused Absences

- **Mr. Starr** announced after the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) discussion on the agenda, we will be going into a closed session, which is only open to Commission members.
- **Mr. Yates** made a motion to excuse David Webb and Vanessa Fleischmann from today's meeting and **Mr. Carper** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the Minutes – December 7, 2017 Meeting

- **Ms. Durso** made a motion to approve the minutes and **Mr. Yates** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Stormwater Staff Report - Veronica High (*Stormwater Administrator – Infrastructure Projects*)

- **Promotions** –
 - Stormwater Quality – Lory Willard (*promoted to Senior Engineer*)
- **New Employees** –
 - Asset Manager – Brad Cole (*Senior Engineer*)
 - Development Review - Charles Webb (*Senior Engineer*)
- **Retirement**
 - Drainage Assistance - Robert Kirkpatrick (*Senior Engineer*)
- **Commission**
 - Ken Carper – *reappointed in January 2018 to serve another term*
 - Matthew Starr – *reappointed in January 2018 to serve another term*
 - Evan Kane – *eligible for reappointment in March 2018*
 - Kevin Yates – *ineligible for reappointment (March 2018) due to term limit*

4. Stormwater Quality Cost Share Projects

Lory Willard (*Senior Engineer*) informed the Commission that there are two projects up for review.

1. **3321 Bearskin Court:** The project includes installing two rain gardens totaling 280 square feet to collect runoff from 2,780 square feet of impervious rooftop, located in Bushy Branch watershed, and eligible for a 75 percent reimbursement.

3321 Bearskin Court	
Stormwater/City Contribution (75%)	\$4,560.00
Petitioner Contribution (25%)	\$1,519.00
Total Project Cost	\$6,079.00

Motion:

Mr. Senior made a motion to approve the project and **Mr. Carper** seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

***Note:** **Ms. Durso** informed the Chair that she needs to abstain from the next project. The Chair agreed.

2. **222 N. Bloodworth Street:** The project includes installing a 125-square-foot rain garden to collect runoff from 682 square feet of impervious rooftop and 700 square feet of surrounding landscape, located in the Pigeon House watershed and eligible for a 90 percent reimbursement.

222 N. Bloodworth St	
Stormwater/City Contribution (90%)	\$10,243.00
Petitioner Contribution (10%)	\$1,139.00
Total Project Cost	\$11,382.00

Commission Comments:

- *Concerns paying additional cost for plantings/mulch*
- *Project similar to project presented at December's meeting where the property owner wanted to use the program to pay for gutters*
- *Unnecessary landscaping costs*
- *Consider removing grading cost*
- *Funding only the basic cost of the rain garden*
- *Is grading necessary for overall function of the system*

Veronica High informed the Commission they have the option to approve the project, except for certain line items. **Lory Willard** agreed, she explained to the owners that she didn't think certain sections of the landscaping contributed to the success of the rain garden.

Motion:

Mr. Starr put forward a motion to approve the project with the subtraction/removal of the other plantings and mulch but keep the grading and entry area since it will contribute to the function of the rain garden with stormwater entering it.

Discussion:

- *What type of material will be used for entry area/steps costing \$2,000*
- *Use wooden steps and basic wall instead of stone*
- *Twice the cost of first approved project for installing rain barrel*
- *Fund half of the cost of the entry area*

Substitute Motion:

Mr. Kane made a motion to approve the project with an overall reduction of \$4,000 to total project for City contribution.

Motion:

Mr. Starr made a revised motion to approve the project, removing the other plantings and mulch that are listed in the total cost and reducing the entry area cost to half of that. **Mr. Kane** withdrew his motion. **Mr. Bostic** seconded the motion made by Mr. Starr. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Stormwater Management Program FY19 Budget and Business Planning Updates

Scott Bryant (*Stormwater Administrator – Planning & Business Operations*) and **Wenju Zhang** (*Stormwater Fiscal Manager*) updated the Commission on the FY19 budget and business plan.

Summary of Presentation

- FY19 Budget - No changes in Stormwater Utility Fee rate; total budget for FY19 (\$25.6 million) is similar to FY18 budget (\$25.8 million); slightly reduced pay-as-go (PAYGO) funding for CIP over next several years; using cumulative available funding; high volume of total CIP output projected (\$30+ million over the next two to three fiscal years); Seven new staff (6-Stormwater Management and 1-Transportation Stormwater Maintenance) and three new trucks proposed.
- (FY19-FY21) Business Plan Highlights – New multi-year business plan format for FY19; strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats-centric (SWOT); key performance indicators (KPIs); and resources needed directly linked to program strategy.
- FY19 Budget Highlights – Includes revenue budget summary (\$25,616.739), expense budget, and five-year CIP summary.

Commission Questions/Staff Response (Italics)

- Any foreseeable utility rate increases up to FY23? – *Yes, based on the projection of the financial model a modest rate is proposed for FY21 to maintain the increased level of service.*
- Does Street Maintenance add any funding for drainage system maintenance? – *No, it's fully funded by Stormwater Maintenance.*
- Lake Preservation, is it City owned lakes or HOA type properties? – *Most of the lakes are privately owned.*
- FY18-19 fund balance appropriation went from \$2.2 million to \$1.3 million. What was the justification for the big cut (42 percent)? – *It was based on meeting the fund balance target rate of 25 percent.*

Veronica High asked the Chair if the water quality project (*Bloodworth Street*) can be revisited. Staff has done a revised cost based on the motion for the project. **Lory Willard** added that by removing the plantings/mulch at \$1,300 and cutting the entry area cost in half, the total project cost is \$8,535. The City would be approving a reimbursement cost up to \$7,682, which is \$2,500 less than initially presented.

6. Follow up to proposed UDO Changes from December Meeting

Lauren Witherspoon (*Stormwater Inspections Manager*) went over the revisions of Commission comments from December's meeting:

- **Guidelines for Land Disturbing Activities (GLDA) Changes**
 - 2.3.1 (NPDES Stormwater Permits) – *added surface withdrawal requirements*
 - 4.2.1 (Surety for Grading Permit) – *deleted stabilization requirement – defined elsewhere*
 - 5.9 (Groundcover) – *added more sentences and deleted mowable*
 - 5.9 (Stabilization) – *table changed to stabilization method*
- **Section 9.4 UDO Changes**
 - 9.4.4 (Standards for Land Disturbing Activities) – *redefine stabilization*

Motion:

Mr. Senior made a motion to approve today's revision and the other version that was reviewed at December's meeting, and **Mr. Yates** seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mr. Starr made a motion pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(2), that the Commission convene in closed session for the purpose of choosing recipients of the 2018 Raleigh Environmental Awards – Capture it! Stormwater Arts Contest. The list of potential award winners was selected by City staff prior to this February 1 meeting. The award recipients will be recognized in a public ceremony scheduled for March 22 at City Market (214 Martin Street) in Raleigh. **Mr. Kane** seconded the motion to enter in closed session. The motion was passed unanimously (8-0).

The Commission came out of close session at 4:30 pm.

7. Other Business

Veronica High informed the Commission that elections for chair and vice chair will be voted on at March's meeting.

Adjournment: **Mr. Starr** made a motion to adjourn and **Mr. Senior** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Suzette Mitchell